

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF MRS. ANNA MAE
HOOPER DEBRO

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an inspiring woman, educator, and woman of God, Mrs. Anna Mae Hooper Debro. Sadly, Mrs. Debro passed away on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at the remarkable age of 104. But, she leaves behind a legacy of impact upon countless people whose lives she touched. Her funeral service was held on Wednesday, December 2, 2020, at the Charles E. Huff International Funeral Home, Incorporated in Columbus, Georgia.

Mrs. Anna Mae Hooper Debro was born in Coffeeville, Mississippi, on October 3, 1916, to the union of Reverend Louis W. Hooper and Mrs. Minnie Hooper. As the daughter of a preacher, she committed her life to being a believer and servant of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, at a very early age.

She graduated from Delta Industrial High School, a historical boarding school for gifted Black children in the Mississippi Delta, before earning her undergraduate degree from Alcorn and Campbell College in 1941. She continued her education at Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University), where she received her Master's degree in Math Education in 1960. A lifelong learner, with an immense passion for education, she sought to further her studies at the University of Georgia, Florida A & M University, and Tuskegee University as a National Science Foundation Scholar.

Mrs. Debro committed her life to education. She held the position of Math Department Chair at Carver High School in Columbus, Georgia, she was the Tri Hi Y Chair, Student Advisor, and the PTA Chairwoman from 1954 to 1971. Later, she taught at Columbus High School from 1971 to 1978, where she was among the first African American teachers to desegregate the Muscogee County School District. Mrs. Debro's life story was so impactful that it was featured in the SIS Oral History Project at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA.

In addition to her dedication in the classroom, she was also a devout servant of God and a member of St. Mark A.M.E. Church for over 70 years, where she chaired the Women's Missionary Society and served in several leadership roles. Her pledge to Christ was echoed in her compassionate leadership, which made her a guiding light within her community.

Mother Teresa once said that "At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things that we have done. We will be judged by "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was naked, and you clothed me, I was homeless, and you took me in." Mrs. Anna Mae Hooper

Debro lived her life to help other people. Because of her love for Jesus Christ and her service to the least of these, the world is indeed a better place.

Mrs. Debro accomplished much in her life, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God and the love and support of her late husband of 30 years, Mr. James Debro, Sr.; and her children, James Jr., William, Lisa, Harriette, and Dwight. She will be greatly missed by her family but will also be missed by her community and all of those whose lives she touched.

Madam Speaker, my wife, Vivian, and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, and all those who mourn her loss, salute Mrs. Anna Mae Hooper Debro for her lifetime of service to humankind. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Mrs. Debro's family during this difficult time of bereavement. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

JOHN PINKERTON, VICTOR VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD MEMBER, RETIRES

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the retirement of John Pinkerton from the Victor Valley Community College Board of Trustees.

Mr. Pinkerton was first elected to the Victor Valley Community College Board of Trustees in November of 2012. Since then John has worked with the other Trustees to help Victor Valley College regain its full accreditation, balance its budget, and increase its enrollment and annual graduates. When John is not serving as a member of the Board of Trustees, he works as a counselor at Silverado High School where he helps students in our community not just by helping them prepare for college and the workforce, but by striving to make a positive impact in their lives.

I offer my sincere gratitude to John for his many years of service on the Victor Valley Community College Board of Trustees and wish him the best in his retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAX
OSCEOLA, JR.

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to honor the life of former Seminole Tribe Chairwoman, Max Osceola, Jr.

We were heartbroken to learn of her passing and join Floridians in mourning this tremendous loss to the Seminole Tribe and the state of Florida. He leaves an unmatched legacy for the Seminole Tribe, South Florida, and our nation.

Max Osceola, Jr.'s tenure on the Hollywood Council spanned 25 years, and it was during that time, that Seminole Gaming expanded and became the pillar of Florida's gaming industry. Under his leadership, tribal students were afforded scholarships for higher education and tribal culture was preserved for future generations.

He always emphasized improving the management of tribal affairs, whether it was housing, health, employment training or education to advance opportunity for Native American youth. Mr. Osceola was a patron of our South Florida community and supported numerous organizations whose work helps improve our surroundings—the Boys & Girls Clubs, the Ann Storck Center, and the Victory Junction Camp for children with serious medical conditions.

A graduate of McArthur High School in Hollywood, Mr. Osceola was one of the first tribal members to graduate from college, earning his degree from the University of Miami. Education was paramount to him and while serving on the tribal council, he created a scholarship to pay for college or vocational school for any member of the tribe.

I join the Seminole Tribe and South Floridians in mourning the loss of an incredible mentor, tribal leader, brother, father, grandfather, and friend. May his memory be a blessing.

HONORING TEXAS JUDGE EMILY
MISKEL

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Texas Judge Emily Miskel, the recipient of the 2020 William H. Renquist Award for Judicial Excellence, widely recognized as the highest honor bestowed to a state court judge by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC).

As the Judge for the 470th District Court in Collin County, Judge Miskel is lauded for rising to meet the challenges posed during the pandemic by leading the first-ever remote hearing and jury trial in the United States. Judge Miskel, a respected authority on legal technology, not only took leadership in utilizing remote resources in the courts, but also went on to train many of Texas' judges. As a result, more than 175,000 virtual hearings have now taken place, allowing for continued access to fundamental services guaranteed by our Constitution.

Judge Miskel earned a mechanical engineering degree from Stanford University and

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